

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 12237 110756Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00
PA-01 ICA-11 SP-02 /035 W
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R 110620Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3324
INFO AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

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E.O. 11652: N/A DECLASSIFY UPON RECEIPT
TAGS: PINT, NP
SUBJECT: B.P. KOIRALA PRESS CONFERENCE

1. IN A PRESS CONFERENCE AUGUST 10, B.P. KOIRALA SAID THAT HE WOULD BE RETURNING TO NEPAL ABOUT AUGUST 20 AND THAT HE HOPED HE WOULD BE ABLE TO MEET WITH THE KING. KOIRALA ALSO SAID THAT HE WOULD VISIT VARANASI AND PATNA BEFORE HE RETURNED HOME. ALTHOUGH DELHI PRESS ACCOUNTS VARY CONSIDERABLY IN QUOTING WHAT KOIRALA HAD TO SAY, GIST OF HIS REMARKS APPARENTLY WERE THAT HE DOES NOT OPPOSE THE MONARCHY BUT WANTED A CONSTITUTIONAL MONARCHY WHICH IS STABILIZED AND STRENGTHENED BY DEMOCRACY. HE REPORTEDLY SAID THAT THE KING APPEARED TO FAVOR REFORM BUT THAT HE HAD TO CONTEND WITH THOSE AROUND HIM WHO HAD VESTED INTERESTS IN THE PRESENT SYSTEM. KOIRALA REITERATED HIS OPPOSITION TO THE PANCHAYET SYSTEM AND SAID THAT THE LACK OF GRASS ROOTS POLITICAL LEADERSHIP ACCOUNTED FOR NEPAL'S POOR ECONOMIC PROGRESS.

2. THE "TIMES OF INDIA" ACCOUNT QUOTED KOIRALA AS SAYING THAT WHILE HE DID NOT OPPOSE THE MONARCHY, "IN THE NAME OF MONARCHY THERE IS DICTATORSHIP IN NEPAL AT THE
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MOMENT." KOIRALA ALSO REPORTEDLY SAID THAT HE THOUGHT THERE WOULD BE GREAT FERMENT IN SOUTH ASIA SOON AND THAT IF NEPAL IS TO PLAY A ROLE IN THE REGION IT MUST BE ON THE BASIS OF UNITY WITHIN THE COUNTRY AND NOT A CONTINUATION OF THE PRESENT NEGATIVE POLICY OF MERELY REACTING TO WHAT INDIA, CHINA AND PAKISTAN DO. ACCORDING TO THE "INDIAN EXPRESS", KOIRALA SAID THAT

HE HAD MET WITH THE INDIAN LEADERS BUT FOUND THEM
"PREOCCUPIED." HE REPORTEDLY ADDED THAT HE FOUND MORE
INTEREST IN NEPAL IN AMERICA THAN IN INDIA.

3. PRESS ACCOUNTS DESCRIBED KOIRALA AS
LOOKING REASONABLY FIT BUT ALL NOTED THAT HIS VOICE
WAS NEARLY GONE.
GOHEEN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780330-0092
Format: TEL
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780874/aaaacjpg.tel
Line Count: 70
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 83d1f264-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
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SAS ID: 1768512
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: B.P. KOIRALA PRESS CONFERENCE
TAGS: PINT, NP
To: STATE
Type: TE
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